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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**TWO INDIANAPOLIS MAN SENTENCED TO 16 AND 14
YEARS FOR TRAFFICKING IN MARIJUANA AND
METHAMPHETAMINE**

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced the following sentencings:

EDGAR ENRIQUE ROMAN-MERCADO, age 27, Indianapolis, Indiana, was sentenced to 16 years imprisonment and JULIAN RIGSBY, age 29, Indianapolis, Indiana was sentenced to 14 years imprisonment yesterday by U.S. District Judge Sarah E. Barker. Each man pled guilty to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute 1,000 or more kilograms of marijuana, conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute more than 500 grams of methamphetamine, and conspiracy to commit money laundering. This case was the result of ROMAN-MERCADO and RIGSBY-2

an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force investigation conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Internal Revenue Service in conjunction with the Indianapolis Police Department.

ROMAN-MERCADO and RIGSBY were arrested by law enforcement officers after an investigation revealed a conspiracy which began in the Spring, 2001 and continued through June 13, 2002. The conspiracy involved the transportation of marijuana and methamphetamine from the state of California into the Indianapolis, Indiana area for distribution. The money from the distribution of the marijuana and methamphetamine was then transported to California either by wire transfers or by vehicle.

Four other co-defendants have already been sentenced in this case. They are:

ALYCIA RIGSBY, 20, Indianapolis, Indiana, was sentenced to 37 months imprisonment, 3 years supervised release and a \$100.00 special assessment on January 30, 2004 by U. S. District Judge Sarah E. Barker following her guilty plea to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute 1,000 or more kilograms of marijuana.

LUKE MELTON, age 23, Indianapolis, Indiana, was sentenced to 46 months imprisonment, 3 years supervised release and a special assessment of \$100.00 on February 4, 2004 by U. S. District Judge Sarah E. Barker following his guilty plea to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute 1,000 or more kilograms of marijuana.

DAVID FAUGHT, age 32, Indianapolis, Indiana, was sentenced to 97 months imprisonment, 3 years supervised release and a \$100.00 special assessment on February 5,

ROMAN-MERCADO and RIGSBY-3

2004 by U. S. District Judge Sarah E. Barker following his guilty plea to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute 1,000 or more kilograms of marijuana.

NANCY HAWKINS, age 32, Indianapolis, Indiana, was sentenced to 48 months imprisonment, 3 years supervised release and a \$100.00 special assessment on February 5, 2004 by U. S. District Judge Sarah E. Barker following her guilty plea to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute 1,000 or more kilograms of marijuana.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Melanie C. Conour, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge Barker also imposed the following supervised release and special assessments/fines:

EDGAR MERCADO received 4 years supervised release following his release from imprisonment. He was fined \$2,500.00.

JULIAN RIGSBY received 3 years supervised release following his release from imprisonment.

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